Infrastructure at a Glance Nez Perce – Clearwater National Forests

Forest Collaborative Meeting
December 1, 2012

Roads

Definition of Forest Service Roads: A National Forest System road is a road necessary for the use and administration of the National Forests. The management and maintenance of the roads are performed in accordance with the documented Road Management objectives (RMO) for each section of road.

What is not a road? User created routes or openings, roads permitted by Special use authority, and temporary roads used by vegetation management activities. In some cases they may become designated National Forest system roads following a travel analysis process deeming the road necessary for the management of the National Forest.

Roads maintained at a level of 3 or greater (for passenger use or for high user comfort) are subject to requirements of the Highway Safety Act (signing, mitigation of hazards), Roads maintained at a level of 2 or lower (for high clearance vehicles or closed) require increased operator skill and judgment.

Travel Management rule requirements:

Sub Part A – Administration of the Forest Transportation system requires identification of the minimum road system and identification of excess roads. This is to be completed by September 30, 2015.

Sub Part B – Designation of roads, trails, and areas for motor vehicle use is currently being worked on for the Nez Perce Clearwater National forests. These are currently being analyzed in documents locally known as the DRAMVU on the Nez Perce National Forest and the Clearwater Travel Plan on the Clearwater National Forest.

Other infrastructure, Buildings, and Airstrips

What is an administrative facility? Administrative facilities are buildings, communications sites, water systems and sewer systems used for the operations of the Forest. These include buildings like Ranger Stations, active fires lookouts, bunkhouses, warehouses, that are used by the Forest Service personnel to manage forest lands.

What is not an administrative facility? Buildings, communications sites, water system and sewer systems used for recreational or private use such as visitor centers, campgrounds, trailhead out houses, permitted or special use cabins, commercial communication sites.

Airstrips- There are seven airstrips recognized and managed by the Forest Service on the Nez Perce - Clearwater National Forests they are as follows:

Dixie at the Guard Station, Orogrande in Crooked River, Cayuse in the North Fork Drainage, Wilson Bar on the Salmon River, Moose Creek at the Guard Station, Shear at the Guard Station, Fish Lake in the Lake Creek Drainage of the Lochsa. All other airstrips within the Greater National Forest boundary are Private airstrips not on Forest Service lands.